



**U.S. Department of Justice**

**United States Attorney**  
**Northern District of Texas**

*1100 Commerce St., 3rd Fl. Telephone (214)659-8600*

---

*Dallas, Texas 75242-1699*

*Fax (214)767-2898*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: 214/659-8707

[www.usdoj.gov/usao/txn](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/txn)

DALLAS, TEXAS

APRIL 12, 2006

**PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD TARGETS**  
**ARYAN BROTHERHOOD OF TEXAS**

United States Attorney Richard B. Roper announced that a federal grand jury in Lubbock, Texas, returned three indictments today that charge five members of the Aryan Brotherhood of Texas with various firearms offenses.

The Aryan Brotherhood of Texas is a criminal organization that originated nearly 40 years ago in San Quentin State Prison in California and is known today as an especially violent prison gang.

U.S. Attorney Roper said, "These cases are the result of the continuing effort of the Department of Justice to aggressively address gang members and gang violence."

The first indictment charges Midland, Texas, resident, Matthew C. Courtney, a/k/a "Pretty Boy," age 34, and Lubbock, Texas, residents, Cory D. Daniel, a/k/a "Voodoo," age 27, and Aaron Thompson, a/k/a "Baby Huey," also age 27, each with conspiracy to possess and dispose of 26 stolen firearms. In addition, Daniel is charged with two counts of being a felon in possession of a firearm and Courtney and Thompson are also each charged with one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm. Each of the three defendants is also charged with one count of possession of stolen firearms. The indictment alleges that all three defendants were members of the Aryan Brotherhood of Texas who stole these firearms in a burglary. Defendants Daniel and Thompson are presently in state custody; an arrest warrant has been issued for defendant Courtney. If convicted on all charges, defendants Courtney and Thompson face a statutory maximum sentence of 25 years imprisonment and defendant Daniel faces a statutory maximum of 35 years imprisonment.

In the second indictment, Lubbock resident Jeremy Lynn Womack, age 27, is charged with one count of possession of an unregistered firearm. Womack is in state custody following a traffic stop by Lubbock Police Officers. During that traffic stop at 12:30 a.m. on the morning of April 4, 2006, Womack appeared to be nervous and refused the officer's request to search his vehicle. The officer requested that a narcotics detection canine officer and his canine check the vehicle. The canine "Nexo" alerted on several areas of the vehicle and a search found a green backpack with a white plastic bag in it that contained a cylinder-shaped object that was suspected to be an improvised explosive device. The Bomb Squad was called and the device was removed and rendered safe. ATF determined that it was a home-made explosive device with an explosive powder, bird shot pellets, and screws designed to be ignited by a homemade fuse fashioned from a string soaked in an accelerant. That same day, Womack's estranged wife contacted the Lubbock Police Department showing them a text message sent to her by Jeremy Lynn Womack that threatened to kill himself and her. That text message was sent approximately 45 minutes before the traffic stop and Womack was headed in the direction of his estranged wife's residence at the time of the stop. If convicted on this federal charge, Womack faces a statutory maximum sentence of 10 years imprisonment.

In the third indictment, John Arthur Clark, a/k/a "Thumper," age 35 of Lubbock, is charged in a one-count indictment with being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm. If convicted on this charge, Clark faces a maximum statutory sentence of 10 years imprisonment. Clark is currently in state custody.

An indictment is an accusation by a federal grand jury and a defendant is entitled to the presumption of innocence unless proven guilty.

U.S. Attorney Roper praised the investigative efforts of the Texas Rangers, Texas Department of Public Safety, Lubbock Police Department, Lubbock County Sheriff's Office, Lubbock County District Attorney's Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The cases are being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Jeffrey R. Haag and Richard C. Baker of the Lubbock, Texas, U.S. Attorney's Office.